

Equal Rights

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FIVE CENTS

SATURDAY,
JULY 30, 1927



Equal Rights Envoys at Rapid City

The National Woman's Party Equal Rights Envoys to President Coolidge were met by women of Rapid City, South Dakota, who formed a Branch of the Woman's Party following the interview with the President.



Feminist Notes

"Married Teachers" in Chicago

THE following dispatch in the *New York World* from Chicago shows how completely the phrase "married teachers" has come to be a feminine term:

"Chicago, July 16.—J. Lewis Coath, Mayor Thompson's President of the School Board, is not only to get Superintendent William McAndrews, he says, but says all married teachers should go.

"He started a survey to learn if marriage causes inefficiency. He intimated that every married school teacher may lose her job.

"They cannot run a home and a school, too," he said.

"The survey is to be made as one of several efforts to determine the most efficient teachers now on the pay rolls, in order to relieve in some degree the present big surplus of eligible teachers for whom no jobs are available."

We know perfectly well that Mr. Coath has no idea whatever of discharging married men from positions in the Chicago public schools.

Superintendent William McAndrews, in championing the cause of the "married teacher," said:

"Teachers can be dismissed only after a trial and proof of unfit conduct or unfitness. Is marriage a misdemeanor? Who is going to try these teachers for getting married? And how about the men teachers?"

Women Aviators Set Records

TWO English women aviators have in recent months set records. Mrs. Elliott Lynn and Lady Bailey set altitude records for light airplanes, and they also won second and first places, respectively, in an airplane race in which men competed with them.

Women's Jury Bill in France

M. BARANTON has introduced in the French Chamber of Deputies a bill to enable women to serve on juries. It provides that the annual jury list shall be made up of names, one-half of which shall be those of men having the qualifications now prescribed by law, and one-half of which shall be those of women taxpayers and women entitled to vote for members of trade councils. When a woman is being tried, six members of the jury must be women. The measure has been referred to the committee on civil and criminal law.

A Feminist Clause in a Will

THE will of the late Payne Whitney contains the following clause:

"If any person to whom any capital or income of my residuary estate is directed or authorized to be distributed or paid, shall be a married woman, the same shall be her sole and separate property, and all such transfers and payments shall be made upon her sole and separate receipt, and neither the income nor the principal of any part of my residuary estate held in trust for the benefit of any married woman, or distributable or payable to her, shall ever be liable for the debts or engagements, or in any wise subject to the control, management, disposition, or interference of any husband she may ever have, nor shall the income of any trust or my residuary estate be alienable or capable of being anticipated or pledged by the beneficiary."

It is well settled that a person may give property for the exclusive benefit of a married woman, but care must be exercised in the preparation of the papers in order to accomplish the result intended. The fact that it is necessary to exercise such care in bequeathing property to a married woman is a commentary on the laws that still place married women in such subjection.

Women at the Economic Conference

FOUR women attended the conference of economic experts at Geneva in May, one as an official representative of Austria, Emmi Freundlich, a national councillor and president of the International Co-operative Association, and the other three as appointees of the Council of the League of Nations. These were: Barbara Wootton, M.A., J.P., principal of Morley College for Working Men and Women and member of the British Labor Party; Dr. E. C. van Dorp, secretary of the Dutch National Committee on Intellectual Co-operation; Dr. Marie E. Lueders, member of the German Reichstag.

Mrs. Wootton is only 30 years old.

Norway to Be Represented by Woman

NORWAY will be officially represented by a woman at the Tenth Congress of Zoologists in Budapest in September. Dr. Kristine Bonnevie has been appointed by the Norwegian Storting.

Another Delay in Equal Franchise

ACCORDING to dispatches received in this country, Premier Baldwin has announced that the British Government does not intend to introduce its promised equal franchise bill in the fall session of Parliament. As Dorothy Evans said when she was here, British Feminists are not ceasing their activities to insure the enactment of the equal franchise measure in time for women to vote on equal terms with men at the next general elections. English Feminists have had too many promises broken to rest when a promise is made. This delay proposed by the Prime Minister would postpone justice to British women for at least a year. But their American friends do not doubt that the British Feminists will do their utmost to "keep promises kept," as Carl Sandburg would say.

Woman Is Russia's Censor for a Month

AFTER creating the first woman ambassador, Alexandra Kollontai, accredited to Norway, then to Mexico, the Soviet has another Feminist innovation in the shape of the first woman censor, Anna Borisovna Goldfarb. Miss Goldfarb, though only acting temporarily during a month's leave of the regular censor, has assumed the full responsibilities of the position, for which she is fitted by five years' work for the Soviet Foreign Office, three as personal secretary to Theodor Rothstein, director of the press department, and the last two as press secretary at the London Embassy.

Miss Goldfarb is only 28 years old.

"Outstanding Service" in Mechanics

WHEN the General Electric Company presented four shares of common stock and certificates to twenty-seven employees as the fourth annual awards for outstanding services, Florence Kuhn was among the number to be honored. She is the only woman this year, and the second in the history of the Charles A. Coffin Foundation to be given an award.

Miss Kuhn had been a machine operator in the Decatur, Illinois, plant. In her first factory experience—she was substituting for another girl—she found she couldn't maintain the pace, so she developed a method of working faster. The work was on armatures of small washing-machine motors. A reward of \$100 was given to Miss Kuhn at the time of this suggestion. She is so adept at handling machines to which she is not accustomed that she is used as substitute operator in various departments.

"Unite and Concentrate"

By Dorothy Evans

(Speech delivered at the National Convention by the delegate of British Feminists. Miss Evans is a member of the International Advisory Council of the Woman's Party.)

THE chief Feminist organizations in Europe are watching with intense interest for the outcome of this convention. In this shrinking world, which the feats of airmen are rapidly diminishing, each nation is more and more affected by developments in other parts of the world. There is today a world public opinion, and we tend to think in the same terms all over the globe. In the western world, at least, the status of women is much the same throughout and the things they have still to fight for are the same.

English women, however, are at a disadvantage, in that they are not fully enfranchised. All men vote at 21, women householders and occupiers at 30. A woman may vote also if she is a graduate, but though she can graduate at 18, she may not vote until she is 30. The present Prime Minister has promised to grant the vote to women at 21 in time to vote at the next general election, and we are busy seeing to it that he keeps his word.

We are promoting the Peeresses' Bill to extend to peeresses the right to sit and vote in the House of Lords. Many people regard our Second Chamber as an obsolete institution, but as long as it exists we can not tolerate the exclusion of women peers. If the so-called Reform of the House of Lords Bill is carried, introducing the elective principle, we must see to it that it includes women who qualify on the same terms as men.

Equal pay for equal work is a critical question. The agitation is being carried on by certain powerful professional organizations, particularly the National Union of Women Teachers and the Federation of Women Civil Servants. They claim also full opportunity for advancement to the highest positions in their professions without handicap or restriction;

and as status is largely established by grade of pay, these two questions are bound up together.

The position of the married woman is an anomalous one, although we have recently secured an equal guardianship law. Our marriage and divorce laws still discriminate against women.

In the field of education, we thought we had at last secured equal opportunities with the recent admission of women to professorships and readerships at Oxford, but the new decision to limit the number of women students in that university to one-fifth of the total again slams a door in our faces.

On the whole, headway is made, but the way is long and laborious.

We consider, therefore, that the time is now ripe for the consolidation of our forces internationally in order to carry out an intensive campaign to bring before international opinion the world-wide demand of women for complete equality with men. The necessity of the moment is for the formation of a more closely knit international alignment of those bodies of women who are concentrating on this issue, to make it a question of immediate political importance in the international arena, as we have, in every country, made it an urgent political issue.

The nations are slowly accepting the idea that they must conform to certain principles in accordance with international ideas of civilization. International agreements are becoming of increasing im-

portance in the fields of public health, nationality laws, treatment of prisoners, of minorities, and of dependent peoples. There is no civilizing principle of as great importance as the emancipation of women. A world league of peoples, at present only in its infancy, is a certainty of the future, not as a super-state, controlling the nations, but as a means of registering a powerful and irresistible world public opinion. Unless the opinion of women carries its full weight in this world opinion, it will not reflect the highest ideals of modern thought and will prove a menace.

Although America is not in the League of Nations, her co-operation is eagerly sought in international agreements and has been of no mean importance. The lives of Americans also have been affected considerably by current world thought as crystalized at Geneva. The international labor organization represents at the present time only two views, that of the governments, which unfortunately generally reflects the employers' views, and that of organized labor, which reflects almost exclusively the views of male workers. It is time that women undertook an offensive to ensure the recognition of the Feminist view in that body.

There are women ready to undertake the task of forcing the recognition and acceptance of the civilizing principle of Equal Rights for men and women by international conferences wherever and whenever they may meet. We have attempted the seemingly impossible before and if we unite and concentrate we can achieve our aims internationally. Thus we may cover, in one big stride, ground over which we have been painfully creeping, with many backslippings, each within her own nation.

Married Women's Names

THE following letter from Helena Normanton, who assisted the National Woman's Party in establishing the right of a married woman to be given a passport in her own name, and who established this right for English women, appears in the May 13 issue of the *Woman's Leader*, official organ of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship (England):

"Madam—There is a certain logic beneath your contention that a woman should be named Mrs. Henry Jones when she comes under the public notice merely as the wife of her husband; but I fancy it must disappear when one reflects that Mrs. Henry Jones must surely be Mrs. Mary Jones to herself and to her Maker?

"Personally I view with a feeling of re-

pulsion which daily increases the social custom by which women hide themselves behind their husbands' surnames. It seems a double screen to adopt their husbands' baptismal names as well.

"The National Woman's Party of the United States of America has as a definite part of its policy that a married woman should, as an optional right, retain her maiden surname and has conducted vigorous fights to promote that policy. Once women are truly awake to the dignity of womanhood, they will drop this mere custom—it is no law—and bear their own names from the cradle to the grave. When they cease the stupid practice of abandoning their surnames, the ridiculous practice of bearing a male Christian name in

marriage will die from its sheer absurdity.

"That the husband's surname is imposed by no law is a question which I have had recent occasion to test for myself in civil litigation. A party against whom I shall presumably be appearing ere long has shared with me the pleasure of one appearance before a Master in Chambers and two before a Judge in Chambers, all three upon this sole point of my surname; and it has formally and legally been decided that the name of your present humble correspondent is, legally as well as socially, yours faithfully,

"(Signed) HELENA NORMANTON."

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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

The object of this organization shall be to secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 11.
House Joint Resolution Number 81.

Introduced in the Senate, December 8, 1925,
by SENATOR CHARLES E. CURTIS.
Introduced in the House of Representatives,
December 16, 1925,
by REPRESENTATIVE D. R. ANTHONY.

Delay---But Not Defeat

A YEAR ago the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs adopted a resolution recommending that an intensive study of Equal Rights versus "protective legislation" be made during the year 1926-27, "with a view to action in regard to it at the next convention."

The "next convention" has just ended—without definite action. Despite the fact that much greater opposition to laws restricting women in industry has apparently developed among the business and professional women in the year of "intensive study," the convention of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, meeting last week in Oakland, California, decided to leave to its various State federations the decision as to how they should stand on specific bills affecting women in industry.

This came only after a spirited debate, in which, according to Marjorie Shuler of the *Christian Science Monitor*, the Eastern delegates seemed to be lined up for Equal Rights in industry, holding that labor legislation for women only hampers women's progress in industry and in business, and that women cannot hope to hold executive positions without the same liberty to dispose of their labor as men have.

California business and professional women have in the last year united to defeat, and did defeat, a "protective" law which would restrict the working hours of women in various businesses.

Indiana, Missouri, Colorado, Michigan, and Iowa are among the Middle Western States where the business and professional women have gone on record favoring Equal Rights in the economic field. Pennsylvania, New York, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Delaware are among the Eastern States where the business and professional women's clubs stand for Equal Rights.

Ruth Litt and Mrs. Job E. Hedges of New York, Florence Bayard Hilles of Delaware, and Mrs. Isaac H. Dixon of Maryland were among the Woman's Party members attending the convention just concluded, and naturally they united with other business and professional women in advocating a resolution favoring Equal Rights in industry. This resolution, introduced by Mrs. Litt, read:

"The National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs holds that women in the professions, in business, and in industry shall be free to work and be protected as working women on the same terms as men; that it is opposed to any legislation on a sex basis, on the ground that all legislation and regulations shall be based on the nature of the work and not upon the sex of the worker."

Loretta Selover of Wichita, Kansas, said:

"We have been told that we should care for our less fortunate sisters, who usually prove to be quite as intelligent as we are, and who want equal pay for equal work. Protective legislation for women workers has kept Kansas girls out of many positions which they might have had."

Belle Sherwin, president of the National League of Women Voters, was among those who told the business and professional women how to "care for their less fortunate sisters." She said in a message to the convention:

"The other obligation upon the federation which when met will be almost equally fruitful is to make clear that all that business and professional women ask of society today is a fair field for work without handicap other than being a newcomer in the field. Women bring to the business and professional world new stores of energy, a fresh point of view, and peculiar gifts for management and administration. Those gifts are a rich source of progress wherever they can be made freely and naturally. Discriminations against the bearers of those gifts because they are women stops the sources of new wealth.

"The federation must be the interpreter of this truth. In doing so it is imperative that the federation extend understanding that the case of business and professional women is different from that of women in industry for whom the field of work is not fair without special legislation."

Yet the New York League of Women Voters sponsored a 48-hour law which affects women in banks and mercantile establishments, including women executives in department stores and stenographers, file clerks, and sales clerks. Upon such positions business women have always laid the foundation of their rise to higher positions.

We are confident that the organized business and professional women will see the inconsistency of this position, and will lend their support to Equal Rights in economic opportunity as well as in legal status.

The Investigation of the Legal Status of Women

THE report of the Legal Research Department must be brief and lacking in definite details because the secretary of the department, Burnita Shelton Matthews, who had expected to be present at the convention and to make this report, was called suddenly from Washington by the serious illness of her father. The preparation of this report has devolved upon those who do not have the latest facts at their command.

The legal research work of the National Woman's Party is perhaps the most outstanding work of the years 1921-1927. This work has had a double nature in that it is an end itself and a means toward an end. Until this work was begun by the National Woman's Party, no exact or exhaustive study of the laws concerning women in the various States had been made. Here and there attempts to investigate the laws had been made, but the surface had been merely scratched. To learn the actual legal position of women in each of the forty-eight States, the District of Columbia, and under the Federal Government, has been the objective of the Legal Research Department. To use the knowledge thus acquired to show how necessary it is that women rouse themselves from the apathy or indifference of acquiescence in their legal inferiority has been the purpose of the study.

The work began in 1921 with one woman lawyer, Burnita Shelton Matthews, working on some important points of the laws affecting women. In 1922 a staff of the women lawyers worked for several

(Report of the Legal Research Department 1921-1927, Submitted to Convention by Emma Wold for Burnita Shelton Matthews.)

months on the examination of ten subjects in the laws of all the States. After the national conference of the Woman's Party in the fall of 1922, the staff was reduced to two, and in the fall of 1926 to one. In this way, a full but not completed study has been made of all the States, involving an examination of every constitutional provision, every statute, every reported court decision by which women are affected in any of their public or private relations. The outward and visible manifestation of the study is a series of typed digests of the law of each State, the District of Columbia, and the United States. It is never possible to say that this work is completed, for year after year legislatures and the Congress of the United States change or add to the laws, and at every session of the courts changed constructions of the law may arise. Leaflets have been written and published giving a simple explanation of the legal discriminations against women in some of the States. Legislative bills numbering more than five hundred have been drafted for introduction in the State legislatures.

The fund of knowledge of the laws concerning women thus accumulated has been of unmeasured value in the campaigns with Congress for the Equal Rights Amendment and with the State legisla-

tures for the removal of specific legal disabilities. During the legislative season the department has been a constant and usually unfailing source of information and explanation.

The Legal Research Department has also given legal counsel to many. It has gone further and has supplied legal service of a valuable sort. Thus it has appeared in behalf of a married woman's right to use her maiden name and has prepared legal briefs in support of this right for use before the Department of State in passport cases, before the Division of Copyrights in a copyright case, in the case of Madame Jeritza in the Federal Court of New York, and in the case of a woman applicant for admission to the bar of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

What remains to be done? As already suggested, there appears to be no end to the work. Legislative bodies and courts are constantly making changes and this necessitates a frequent revision of the digests. There remains also the assembling of the knowledge already gained into some form that will serve the inquiring public. Publishers have suggested the gathering of the information into a handbook, which would give in brief form the full legal status of women throughout this country. Until something of this sort is done, the results of the legal research work of the years 1921-1927 are available to only the few who have the patience and the skill to go through the digests in their present form.

How Can Support for Equal Rights Be Gained?

SEVERAL sessions of the convention of the National Woman's Party were devoted to discussions of the pressing question of stimulating and concentrating support for the Equal Rights Amendment, so that it can be incorporated into the fundamental law of the United States promptly.

Maud Younger, Congressional chairman, who is in charge of gaining support in Congress for the Equal Rights Amendment, opened the discussion of converting Congress to the immediate passage of the Amendment. Lillian H. Kerr spoke on gaining the support of homemakers; Jane Norman Smith on gaining the support of business and professional women; Frances G. Roberts on gaining the support of women in industry; Mrs. Isaac H. Dixon on concentrating the forces of farm women for the amendment; and Victoria Buell of the Bryn Mawr Students' Council of the Woman's Party on the demand of

the woman student for Equal Rights.

"It is the people back home who are going to pass the Equal Rights Amendment," said Miss Younger.

"We plan to make a concentrated drive on Congress from both ends, from the legislative headquarters at Washington, and from the home districts of the representatives.

"Congressmen, Senators, and political leaders must be assured that the Equal Rights Amendment is a pressing issue just as they had to be assured that the Suffrage Amendment was a demand that could not be denied.

"Congress is most sensitive to public opinion and the pressure of that opinion. The duty of the Woman's Party is clear. It must demonstrate to Congress that women demand the immediate passage of Equal Rights Amendment."

Since the majority of women in this country are homemakers, particular in-

terest centered on the report of Lillian H. Kerr, vice-chairman of the Colorado Branch, on "How Can the Support of Women in the Home be Secured for Equal Rights?" Mrs. Kerr said: "There are 20,000,000 homemakers in this country. About one-sixth of these are listed in the census as 'gainfully employed' because they work outside the home! The others are listed as of 'no occupation.'

"Many women prefer to remain in the home, yet they have no economic status and do not command the proper respect for their profession of homemaking. This is due largely to the fact that the ancient common law principle that a woman's services belong to her husband has now come to be an accepted fact. Since a woman's services are taken as a matter of course, a low value is placed on them.

"In this day there are an increasing number of opportunities for women to earn their living outside the home. A

capable woman who remains at home knows that her time is a marketable product, yet that married woman has no earnings, no income, no money except that which her husband wishes to give her.

"The Homemakers' Council of the Woman's Party has been studying various ways of how to compensate a married woman for her services. It has been suggested that the husband's earnings, since he works outside of the home and she works inside of the home, be regarded as the family income, the wife entitled by law to her share in it. It has been suggested that the husband and wife each have separate earnings, the wife's services to the home to be reckoned in terms of money earnings.

"Just what actual money division we will finally arrive at through our research and the suggestion of our members, we do not know.

"Homemakers are supporting the Equal Rights Amendment because Equal Rights is the foundation principle upon which all human relationships should be based if we want that principle to guide us in our wider social, political, and economic relations."

"Compared with men, women have had a much shorter time in business, in industry and the professions, but in that time they have learned a few important lessons," said Mrs. Smith, chairman of the New York State Branch and now chairman of the National Council. "They have

realized that a penalty is placed upon their success; that as women show themselves capable of filling better positions, men tend to 'protect' them out of them. Men regard themselves as the stronger sex, yet never hesitate to use unfair methods against what they term the weaker sex. I refer to the avalanche of restrictive legislation that is descending upon the women of my State and other States. In New York the hours that a woman may work have been set by law; the hours for men have not even been discussed by legislators. Due to the no-night-work law and the 48-hour week many women have been legislated out of their jobs.

"Men are already entrenched in all the best positions in the professions and industry. Competition with them is difficult enough, but competition with them becomes a farce if no restrictions are placed on them by law, while innumerable restrictions surround and hinder women. It is an almost insurmountable economic handicap for women to have an unregulated market for men and a regulated market for women.

"The growing resentment of economically handicapped women will be a dependable and vital support for the Equal Rights Amendment."

"It is not only difficult to get a foothold in industry, if women are handicapped by restrictive legislation, it is almost impossible for women ever to reach the top or remain there under such con-

ditions," said Mrs. Roberts of New York, former chairman of the Industrial Council. She is executive manager for a large chain of New York restaurants.

"Many New York restaurants, realizing that the 48-hour law would go into effect in 1928, are already training only men for supervising positions, since they say that they must be prepared to regard their ranks as eventually wholly made up of men."

"The isolation of the farm woman is over, and the Farm Woman's Council of the National Woman's Party intends to make Equal Rights for farm women not only an ideal, but an attainable fact," declared Mrs. Dixon of Maryland, chairman of the Farm Women's Council.

"The radio, the telephone, improved methods of transportation, the greater number of cars and better roads, are all uniting the farm women, who form more than half of the women in our population, and giving them hope for the first time in history of being a really organized group.

"Heretofore the Equal Rights movement has been an urban movement, because the city women were the only ones who could get together. Farm women need and want Equal Rights more than any other group, and we plan to use their massed power behind that large portion of Congress from the rural districts. We look to the farm representatives to assure the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment."

Restrictive Legislation at Geneva

MARGARET BONDFIELD'S speech on protective legislation for women at a recent plenary session of the International Labor Organization, already referred to in these columns, calls for the careful consideration of all women who want to build up the liberties of their sex on a sure foundation. Miss Bondfield is deservedly popular in many circles outside the Labor Party, and sometimes it is forgotten that she is a most loyal member of her party. At Geneva she had a great opportunity to speak, not only for her party, not only for one section of women, but for all those countless millions whose lives, now or in the future, may be affected by the standards set up throughout the world by the International Labor Organization. She did not seize the opportunity. Instead, with her usual lucidity, she set out the usual argument of those who seem to see unqualified good in restrictive legislation based on sex.

To quote the short *Times* report: "They (the women workers) came in as young girls, they married and left the industry for a short time; they came back as widows or wives whose husbands were

(From the *Woman's Leader, Official Organ of the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship (England)*, June 24, 1927.)

unable to maintain them, and they had a broken industrial record. Therefore they were not able, as men were able, to maintain a continuous organization to the degree of efficiency which made collective bargaining sufficiently powerful in their case." There is much in this argument, and the fact that it has the support of certain organized women workers must secure respect for it. The N. U. S. E. C. at its last annual council meeting, while reaffirming by an overwhelming majority its conviction that protective legislation should be based not upon sex but upon the nature of the work, also declared its intention of taking into consideration various factors, of which one was the wishes of the workers affected. This was merely putting into words what almost all, if not all, serious students of the problem do and have always done. But the more the history of the question is studied, the more clearly it appears that the

"wishes of the workers affected" is a thing much more difficult to ascertain than might be supposed. The very facts stated by Miss Bondfield account for a further fact which she does not stress, namely, that the number of organized women workers is extremely small, and that of that number a large proportion are incorporated in unions with a large male membership. The opinion of every woman worker affected should have weight, but, while on the one hand industrial women workers are so little organized, and so closely associated with the men of the trade unions, and also of the Labor Party, that the nature of their views must seem somewhat ambiguous, on the other hand, there are other women, workers and potential workers, affected by the growth of restrictive legislation, whose views Miss Bondfield failed to voice at Geneva.

The essence of the controversy is, whether it is or is not possible to segregate women, or certain classes of women, and have special legislation for them, without injuriously affecting their status and opportunities.

While the question was largely a na-

tional one, it was of less importance, but it cannot be too often pointed out that the International Labor Organization claims to establish a world-wide control in matters affecting the worker, not only the industrial worker as is popularly supposed, but also the worker in other fields. The oppressed condition of the woman worker in certain parts of the world is no reason for cramping the development and lowering the status of all women. Again and again those who have sought, in the alleged interests of women themselves, to protect them from the rough side of life and work have failed. There are no short cuts, the only real protection for any worker, male or female, is a high general standard of conditions and of remuneration. No hard and fast rules can be made in regard to which occupations are most suitable for men and which for women. The Italian Government ap-

pear to consider that women are specially suited to be air pilots in time of war; many elderly magistrates and others in this country think they should all be domestic servants. Get good conditions in the R. A. F. and in domestic service, and then let the men and the women sort themselves out. But do not perform any absurdities equivalent to making it illegal for a woman military air pilot to fly unless the sun is shining.

The Factory Bills and the Lead Paint (protection against poisoning) Bills have given ample opportunity for the ordinary lay person to study both sides and to learn for themselves upon what a slender basis of scientific fact the legislative restrictions upon women as such have been established.

The Feminist movement, composed of women of all classes, of various occupations or of "none," has won liberty after

liberty for all women, and the industrial women have shared these hard-won liberties. May a plea be put forward that the women who go from this country to the various meetings and conferences of the International Labor Organization shall think of themselves, not as merely the mouthpieces of one section of women, or of one party, but of all women, for it is only when there is solidarity among women that there can be a true comradeship between men and women, and liberty for both sexes. All of us desire that the International Labor Organization shall become a stable institution; at present it is a little like a blundering schoolboy when it tries to deal with the problem of the modern woman, but the modern woman is a very real thing, and has come to stay: There can be no stability unless the International Labor Organization faces up to this fact.

Women in Finnish Government

DESPITE the enactment of a measure admitting women to all Government and other official positions, which went into effect on April 23, 1926, the Government of Finland has issued an order empowering departments of the Government to allocate certain positions definitely either to men or to women. Ilmi Hallsten, commenting on this order, says:

"The Government at once took advantage of this decision. On the same day on which the act came into force an order was published giving a list of the positions which could only be occupied either by men or by women.

"This order is much less favorable to women than those who framed the bill had intended it to be. As a matter of

fact, although according to the letter of the law the Government has not exceeded its powers, but only stretched the interpretation to the utmost, it is surprising to note how many of these positions require a male employee. Naturally all the important positions in the Civil and Diplomatic Service are reserved for men. For example, no woman can represent Finland in a foreign country, nor can she become a consul. In the Foreign Office only men can be heads of departments; also all higher administrative positions under the central or local authorities as well as in the police service are reserved for men. Women are entirely debarred from all higher legal positions; they are not allowed to be either magistrates or judges.

"With regard to the positions reserved for women the following are mentioned: inspectors of domestic subjects and of gymnastic and hygienic teaching to girls, and the teaching of these subjects in girls' schools, also certain posts in women's prisons can be occupied by women. These few positions are all that is left to the women as their special own domain, and when we compare it with what is reserved for the men, it will be seen that the latter have certainly not come off second best.

"The act does not touch the positions in the churches, as the decision there rests with the National Church Council. This council will meet in 1928, and we expect that on that occasion the question of the rights of women in the church will be raised."

Press Comment on Convention

**Equal Rights
Will Not
"Upset World"**

*Rocky Mountain
News*

July 10, 1927

part of the Constitution of the United States, many of the even intelligent people among our opponents expect a sudden world calamity," she said with a laugh.

COLORADO SPRINGS, July 9. — Will success for the Equal Rights Amendment campaign being launched at the National Convention of the National Woman's Party here precipitate a world upheaval?

That is a question that is agitating many minds, according to leading Feminists here, and the answer was given today by Belle Bortin Ruppia, delegate from Wisconsin and one of that State's leading attorneys.

"When we women achieve our goal and the Lucretia Mott Amendment becomes a

"Think back over history. Has it not been the same with every one of our advances since the very start of the suffragist movement?

"Did not the learned men of the world declare when the women started their fight for franchise that it would mean the ruination of womanhood—that it would be the forerunner of the 'end of the world'?"

"By end of the world these wise folks literally meant the end of motherhood for women. But has it changed the number of children being born? Not at all.

"Nor will our victory in our present cause, the fight for Equal Rights, precipitate any world upheaval. Custom is something which can be changed only by time.

"Equal Rights for women as a Federal amendment will give us our wedge, but we do not deceive ourselves that it will mean radical changes in the attitude of the world toward the wearer of skirts.

"Alarmists have been with us always, and are still on tap."

Mrs. Ruppia points to herself as an answer to the age-old question of a career versus domestic life for women.

"I am a practicing attorney, and have met with considerable success in my career. But I place no higher value upon

my career at the bar than I do upon my equally successful career as a wife and mother," she exclaimed.

"I have an adorable home, an ideal home life, and have a baby son five years old. It is nonsense to say a woman cannot mix the two.

"I believe it could almost be called a panacea for many of the ills of this old world if more women had more of their time occupied by useful occupation outside the home. Careful planning leaves plenty of time for both."

Of cosmetics and the way of the modern maid, Mrs. Rupp's viewpoint is that they are a matter of individuality. Asked what there was about the Feminist movement which seemed to induce so many of its adherents and leaders to assume mannish modes of dress, her reply was:

"There is nothing. Dress is a matter of personal taste. All are born into this world naked. What we choose to adorn our bodies or our faces with is just our interpretation of what makes each of us the mental picture of what we want to be. It has nothing to do with party or principles."

**Homemaker
Should Have
Economic Status**
*Colorado Springs
Evening Telegraph*
July 8, 1927

THE recognition of the homemaker as a professional woman is one of the most necessary steps in the progress of American Feminism, according to Mrs. Thomas Valentine Winters of Dayton, chairman of the Ohio State Branch of the National Woman's Party, who is one of the speakers scheduled at the public reception officials of the Party will give tonight at 8 o'clock in the sun parlor of the Broadmoor Hotel.

"Homemaking is undoubtedly one of the most worth-while and dignified professions for women," said Mrs. Winters at the Antlers this morning, "and yet the housewife has no standing as compared to women working in offices and holding similar positions. I, myself, would love to belong to one of the business and professional women's clubs; yet they have no classification of membership which admits homemakers to their ranks."

Mrs. Winters, former legislative chairman in Ohio, spoke with pride today of the work in removing discriminations which has been accomplished there. Comparing the State, which had fourteen discriminatory laws, with New York, which had twenty-five, she pointed out that the Middle Western commonwealth had passed the same number of measures removing discriminations, four in all, as had New York.

"Governor Victor Donahey," said Mrs.

Winters, "had been much criticized for the large number of bills which he vetoed; yet he signed all of our measures, and when I went to thank him, he said, 'Why, I couldn't veto any of your bills, they were all necessary and good ones.'"

This spirit among legislators and executives, she believes, will lead to the speedy removal of laws obnoxious to women in this country.

Mrs. Winters, in addition to her interest in Feminism, follows the lure of collecting, and is considered one of America's noted connoisseurs of early American antiques, especially of furniture. She has given some valuable pieces to the National Headquarters in Washington.

**Equal Rights
Movement
Not a Fad**

*Rocky Mountain
News*

July 10, 1927

In answering this question, which leaders of the Party agree many of the men of the West are asking today, the women stoutly deny the assertions.

Mrs. Thomas Ross Newbold, Colorado Springs, one of the workers of the Party and head of the Woman's Exchange here, points out in her denial that faddists have either too little time or are too shallow of thought to be able to understand or approve the Woman's Party principles.

"Equal Rights to me," Mrs. Newbold said, "has a very strong appeal, when applied to the every-day home life. In my work at the exchange I come in contact with many examples of life which convince me Equal Rights is badly needed right here in our own community.

"For example, one of my customers, a woman who has raised a family of seven children, and raised them all well, according to our best standards, said to me: 'There are things I should like to buy, had I the money. I do wish my husband would give me more than 25 cents a week for myself.'

"Think of it. If that isn't a case where Equal Rights is needed, I never saw one.

"Again, there came into my place an entirely different sort of person—the woman with silks and furs and diamonds, seemingly everything that heart could desire, yet I know that in many instances these women have not a cent to their name.

"They have plenty of charge accounts, to be sure, but their husbands never give them any cash.

"I hope some day to see this marriage problem and the case of women put on a business basis as it should be. Marriage is a business."

News from the Field

Rapid City Women Organize

A BRANCH of the National Woman's Party, consisting of women of Rapid City and Deadwood, South Dakota, and the vicinity, was organized on July 15, following the deputation to President Coolidge.

Officers elected were: Mrs. J. L. Robbins, chairman; Mrs. T. F. Fellows, Mrs. A. S. Halley and Mrs. A. D. Clift, vice-chairmen; Mrs. Harold W. Card, secretary; Mattie McMichaels, treasurer. Glennye Thompson, Sioux Falls, South Dakota chairman, was among those present.

The luncheon was held at the Hiway Inn and was presided over by Mrs. Fellows. Speakers were Anita Pollitzer, Charleston, South Carolina, vice-chairman of the National Woman's Party; Gail Laughlin, Portland, Maine, spokesman for the delegation and also vice-chairman; Mabel Vernon, Wilmington, Delaware, Delaware State chairman; Rebecca Hourwich, Robinhood, Maine, vice-chairman of the Maine State Branch, and Mary Carolyn Taylor, Chicago, Illinois, Illinois State chairman.

Not only Rapid City women manifested great interest in the formation of a branch of the National Woman's Party there, but some Deadwood women joined the organization.

Norwegian Women Telegraphers

WOMEN telegraphers of Norway have recently held their national convention in Oslo. This group of women employees in the State and community service in Norway, numbering about 1,600, is the most experienced group of women in the struggle for proper working conditions and the right to work under a fair wage scale and fair right of promotion. Ragnhild Halvorsen, the first and only telegraph woman superintendent in Norway, says:

"On paper we have full equality with men. In practice it is entirely different. With regard to promotions and other matters much remains to be desired."

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